

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 1999-009-C - ORDER NO. 1999-223
MARCH 29, 1999

IN RE: Petition of Teltrust Communications Services,) ORDER GRANTING ✓
Inc. for Alternative Regulation of its Business) ALTERNATIVE
Services.) REGULATION

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Petition of Teltrust Communications Services, Inc. (Teltrust or the Petitioner) for approval of alternative regulation of its interexchange business services. The Petitioner seeks a relaxed form of regulation of its business service offerings in keeping with the policy and procedures set out in Commission Order Nos. 95-1734 and 96-55 in Docket No. 95-661-C and with the South Carolina Supreme Court Opinion No. 24699. More specifically, the Petitioner requests that its business service offering tariffs not be required to indicate maximum rates and that such tariffs be presumed valid upon filing, subject to the Commission's right within seven (7) days to institute an investigation of the tariff filing, in which case such filings shall not be suspended pending further Order of the Commission.

Pursuant to the Commission's Executive Director's instructions, the Petitioner published a Notice of Filing, one time in a newspaper of general circulation. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were filed.

We note that Teltrust received its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate as a reseller of telecommunications services in South Carolina by Order No. 94-1155, issued in Docket No. 94-292-C on November 3, 1994. Teltrust provides no residential services in the State, but only provides business services.

Teltrust states its belief that it should not be constrained by regulations more stringent than those applied to similarly situated carriers. Teltrust states that allowing it the relaxed form of regulation will allow it to compete more effectively in South Carolina, and to introduce new service offerings into the marketplace in a more timely fashion.

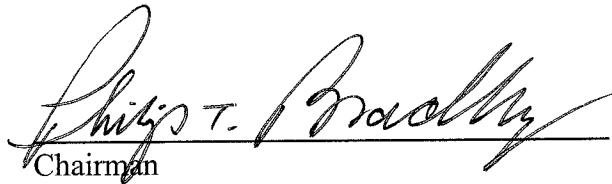
We have examined the Petition and hold that Teltrust should be granted the relaxed form of regulation found in Commission Order Nos. 95-1734 and 96-55 in Docket No. 95-661-C and as noted in the South Carolina Supreme Court Opinion No. 24699. We believe that the Petitioner will be able to compete more effectively and will also be able to introduce new service offerings into the marketplace in a more timely fashion.

MARCH 29, 1999

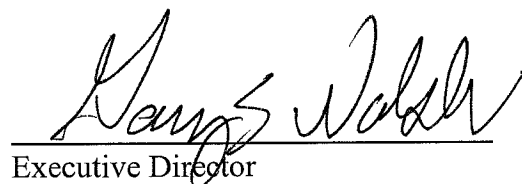
PAGE 3

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)